GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1179
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2016
Retrenched Indian Workers
Arunmozhithevan Shri A.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Saudi Arabia had promised to allow the retrenched Indian workers to return to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Saudi Arabia Government has also promised to try and find jobs for retrenched Indian workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) Following reports of difficulties faced by a section of Indian workers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia primarily in two major Saudi companies namely Saudi Oger and the Saad Group, the Government had taken up the matter with the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Saudi authorities have assured us all possible assistance to the affected Indian workers of these companies including waiver of fines on Iqama (resident permit) related violations, providing exit visas and one way return tickets to India. The process of repatriation has already begun and 4358 Indian workers have returned so far.

(c) & (d) The Saudi authorities are also facilitating transfer of sponsorship, wherever possible, of the affected workers from their present company to other companies on gratis basis. A significant number of affected workers have also availed transfer of sponsorship to other companies.